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BOROUGH OF STAFFORD



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

TOGETHER WITH THE REPORT OF THE

Senior Sanitary Inspector

1939

STAFFORD :

ALLISON & BOWEN, LTD., 19 GREENGATE STREET





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**H. B. BINKS,**

*Medical Officer of Health.*

**IVOR O. WILLIAMS,**

*Senior Sanitary Inspector.*

STAFFORD :

ALLISON & BOWEN, LTD., 19 GREENGATE STREET

# PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN : ALDERMAN MERREY.

VICE-CHAIRMAN : COUNCILLOR DOBSON.

Alderman	Adamson.	Councillor	Dr. McIntosh.
„	Mrs. Turvey.	„	Mrs. Robinson.
Councillor	Amery.	„	Thewlis.
„	Mrs. Cotterill.	„	Mrs. Welton.
„	Fowke.	„	Wilks.
„	Ibbs.		

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,  
Medical Superintendent Infectious Diseases Hospital, and  
Medical Officer Infant Welfare Centre.

\*†H. B. BINKS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,  
A. V. CAMPBELL, M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR,  
Lodging-house Inspector, Inspector under the Canal Boats Act, and  
Inspector under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932.

\*I. O. WILLIAMS, Cert. R. San. Inst.,  
and Certificated Meat Inspector.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTORS,  
\*A. F. WARD, Cert. S.I.B.,  
and Certificated Meat Inspector.  
\*S. A. GREGORY, Cert. S.I.B.  
and Certificated Meat Inspector.  
(*H.M. Forces from December 1st, 1939*).

HEALTH VISITORS,  
and Assistant Sanitary Inspectors,  
\*MISS C. E. SUFFIELD, H.V., & S.I. Certs. R.S.I.  
Cert. Cent. Midwives Board.  
\*MISS E. E. BRIGGS, S.R.N., H.V., & M. & C. W. Certs.  
R.S.I., Cert. Cent. Midwives Board.

MATRON OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL,  
MRS. IDA HOME.

SENIOR CLERK,  
R. FOWELL.

JUNIOR CLERK,  
G. E. SHEWARD.  
(*H.M. Forces from September 2nd, 1939*).

TEMPORARY CLERK-TYPISTS,  
MISS L. R. DALKINS (A.R.P. only). (From August 14th, 1939).  
MRS. H. N. JACKSON (From September 18th, 1939).

\*Salaries contributed to under Public Health Acts or by Exchequer Grants. All are whole-time Officers, except the Deputy Medical Officer of Health, and that the Health Visitors devote a portion of their time to work under the Staffordshire, Wolverhampton and Dudley Joint Committee for Tuberculosis.

†Services of the Medical Officer of Health by arrangement are available to the County for School Medical Duties for four sessions per week.



BOROUGH HEALTH OFFICE,  
5, MARTIN STREET,  
STAFFORD.

September, 1940.

**To the Chairman and Members of  
the Public Health Committee.**

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

In compliance with the instructions laid down in the Ministry of Health's Circulars Nos. 1961 and 2067, dated February 16th, 1940, and July 19th, 1940, the 66th Annual Report has been restricted to the bare recording of facts and to changes in services.

The year as a whole can only be reviewed with regret, inasmuch as schemes, including the new Welfare Centre, have been curtailed and much-needed progress, especially as to the housing needs of the Borough, retarded.

Reference to a Diphtheria outbreak, reported on page 28, is made here in order that some prominence may rightfully be given to the assistance received from the late Dr. Menton and his staff in the detection of cases and the control of carriers, and also to my colleagues in general practice who so understandingly co-operated with me throughout the epidemic, thus ensuring its speedy control and termination.

The following points taken from the Report are not without their interest :—

The Birth Rate is the highest for twelve years.

The Death Rate is lower than the average for the last ten years.

The Infantile Mortality Rate is the highest for the last fifteen years.

More children were visited in their homes, and more mothers made use of the Ante-natal Domiciliary Scheme.

Immunisation against Diphtheria has gone ahead, especially as to children under five years.

The Tuberculosis Death Rate is the lowest ever recorded.

Mention should be made of the valuable Shugborough addition to the water supply, and the closing of six slaughter-houses under the Food and Drugs Act.

Civil Defence has, and is making, serious inroads upon the time of your Public Health Staff. Attention should be

drawn to the fact that the Borough Staff is a small one, and, unlike many towns of comparable size, it has no School Medical Staff to call upon. Again, Departmental orders, and problems engendered by them are not made more easy of solution by being subjected to consideration by an intercepting authority before they can be dealt with.

Thanks are due to you, Mr. Chairman, and to the Members of the Committee for your help and for refraining from making so many demands upon me during the year under review. To Mr. Weaver, of the Employment Exchange, for his report, to my colleagues, and to the Staff generally and Mr. Williams in particular, I wish to express my thanks.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. B. BINKS.

# REPORT

## SECTION A.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

### General Statistics.

Area of Borough ... ..	5,089 acres
Registrar-General's estimate of—	
(a) resident population, mid-1939	32,670
(b) average population appropriate to the calculation of death rates	33,110
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1939) according to Rate Books ...	8,522
Rateable value (31st March, 1939) ...	£203,685
Sum represented by a penny rate (1938- 1939) ... ..	£790/3/10

### Social Conditions.

Mr. A. Weaver, Manager of the Employment Exchange, has supplied me with the following information :—

“The Chief Industries, trades and occupations, are as under :—

	Number of Insured Workpeople Employed.				
	Men	Women	Boys	Girls	Total
Electrical Engineering .....	2492	630	452	305	3879
Internal Combustion En- gines .....	833	59	211	26	1129
Locomotive Engineering ...	272	10	57	12	351
Boot and Shoe .....	846	1004	63	336	2249
Wood Heel Manufacture ...	112	112	13	29	266
Abrasive Wheel Industry	588	99	33	41	761
Reinforced Concrete En- gineering .....	380	94	16	50	540
Building .....	817	27	63	4	911
Distributive Trades .....	868	515	164	145	1693
Local Government Service	1928	420	35	56	2439

“The total insurable population in the area is approximately 18,500.

“The number of unemployed persons registered at the local Employment Exchange in December, 1939, was 319,

which represents 1.73% of the insured population. The corresponding figures for December 1938 were 646 persons unemployed (representing 3.66% of the insured population).

“The percentage of unemployed for the whole country at the same date was 9.1.

“During the whole of the year 1939 there has been a general tendency for the unemployed register to decrease, and the low percentage of unemployment in Stafford reflects the steady improvement in the state of trade within the Borough.

“The Engineering Industry, which employs approximately 5,500 insured workers, has maintained the improvement reported a year ago. Full time working continues and skilled tradesmen are at present in demand.

“In the Boot and Shoe Industry some short time working has again been resorted to but towards the end of the year the position appeared to improve.

“The Abrasive Wheel and Reinforced Concrete Engineering Industries have been on full time throughout the period under review, and other trades and occupations have also improved generally.”

#### **Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.**

				Total	Male	Female
Live	Legitimate	...	...	502	232	270
Births	Illegitimate	...	...	14	7	7
Totals				516	239	277

#### **Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population, 15.8.**

	Total	Male	Female
Stillbirths	20	11	9

#### **Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 37.**

Deaths	...	...	...	348	178	170
--------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

#### **Death Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population, 10.5.**

The Registrar-General supplies a “Comparability Factor” to each district based on the age and sex of its population as shown at the last Census. When the recorded death rate of a town is multiplied by this factor the corrected death rate is obtained. This is truly comparable with the death rate of any town similarly treated. The factor for Stafford is 1.03. The corrected Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population is therefore 10.8.



Deaths from puerperal causes :—

				Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
		Deaths.		
		1938	1939	
Puerperal sepsis ...	1	0	—	
Other puerperal causes	0	1	1.86	
Total ...	1	1	1.86	

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births ...	69
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	71
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	—

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ...	48
„ „ Measles (all ages) ...	1
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	0
„ „ Diarrhoea (under two years of age) ...	3

BIRTHS.—The total number of live births for the year was 516. There were 239 males and 277 females. The birth rate at 15.8 per 1,000 compares with 15.0 for England and Wales, and 13.8 for the average local figure for the last ten years.

DEATHS.—The number of deaths registered in 1939 was 348 ; of these, 178 were males and 170 females. The crude death rate of 10.5 is lower than the average of the last ten years, i.e., 11.0. For causes of death and ward distribution of deaths see table on page 10.

The principal causes of death, their number, and their percentage are given below :—

		Number Number Percentage		
Disease.		1938	1939	of whole
Heart disease ...	...	90	102	29.3
Cancer ...	...	42	48	13.8
Bronchitis, Pneumonia, etc. ...	...	35	24	6.9
Cerebral hæmorrhage ...	...	19	16	4.6
Tuberculosis (all forms)	...	25	17	4.8
Prematurity ...	...	22	22	6.3
Old age ...	...	12	12	3.3
Violence ...	...	12	13	3.6

Infantile Mortality.

The table below shows the number, age, and cause of death of children under one year of age.

DEATHS UNDER 1 YEAR.

Causes of Death.	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Marasmus .....	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Gastro-Enteritis .....	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	3
Premature Birth .....	11	1	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	12
Congenital Malformation .....	1	1	1	—	3	—	—	—	1	4
Atelectasis .....	5	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	5
Violence .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Birth Injury .....	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia .....	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	1	2	6
Bronchitis .....	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	2
Septicæmia .....	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
TOTAL .....	18	3	3	—	24	4	3	2	3	36

Ward distribution of baby deaths was: North 11, South 3, East 8, West 11, Baswich 3

## Stillbirths.

Of the 18 stillbirths, 12 occurred in the home. The following particulars have been supplied by the County Medical Officer of Health :—

PERIOD OF PREGNANCY.			REMARKS.
Full term	...	...	Forceps delivery.
Full term	...	...	Hydrocephalic monster. Doctor's case.
Premature, 10 weeks	...	...	Doctor's case. Child apparently dead two days before delivery. Not macerated. Mother cardiac case.
Premature, 12 weeks	...	...	Ante-partum hæmorrhage.
Premature, 8 weeks	...	...	Breech delivery.
Premature, 8 weeks	...	...	Not macerated.
Premature, 8 weeks	...	...	Hydramnios and anencephalic. Doctor's case.
Premature, 2 weeks	...	...	Macerated.
Premature, 16 weeks	...	...	Miscarriage.
Premature, 4 weeks	...	...	Anencephalic monster. Doctor's case.
Premature, 6 weeks	...	...	Ante-partum hæmorrhage.
Full term	...	...	Macerated. Doctor's case.
Post mature, 2 weeks	...	...	Extended breech. Doctor's case.
Full term	...	...	Difficult breech. Doctor's case.
Full term	...	...	B.B.A.
Premature, 8 weeks	...	...	Macerated.
Premature, 7 weeks	...	...	Ante-partum hæmorrhage.

No particulars are available regarding the other stillbirth.



THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S SHORT LIST OF CAUSES OF DEATH is given below :—

CAUSES OF DEATH.	TOTAL.	MALES.	FEMALES.
Measles .....	1	1	—
Diphtheria .....	3	2	1
Influenza .....	2	1	1
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	17	10	7
General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis.....	3	—	3
Cancer, malignant disease .....	48	21	27
Diabetes .....	8	2	6
Cerebral hæmorrhage, etc. ....	16	5	11
Heart Disease .....	102	55	47
Aneurysm .....	2	1	1
Other circulatory diseases .....	27	16	11
Bronchitis .....	7	4	3
Pneumonia (all forms).....	17	9	8
Peptic ulcer .....	3	3	—
Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years).....	3	2	1
Appendicitis .....	3	1	2
Other diseases of liver, etc. ....	2	—	2
Other digestive diseases .....	9	5	4
Acute and chronic nephritis .....	10	4	6
Other puerperal causes .....	1	—	1
Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc. ....	22	13	9
Senility .....	12	7	5
Other violence .....	3	8	5
Other defined diseases.....	17	8	9
TOTAL DEATHS .....	348	178	170

Ward distribution of deaths :—

North, 82 ; South, 66 ; East, 102 ; West, 79 ; Bas-  
wich, 19.

# BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, MATERNAL MORTALITY AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1939.

	ENGLAND AND WALES	126 C. Bs. AND GREAT TOWNS INCLUDING LONDON	148 SMALLER TOWNS RESIDENT POP. 25,000 —50,000 1931 CENSUS	STAFFORD		ENGLAND AND WALES	126 C. Bs. AND GREAT TOWNS INCLUDING LONDON	148 SMALLER TOWNS RESIDENT POP. 25,000 —50,000 1931 CENSUS	STAFFORD	
Live Births .....	Rates per 15.0 0.50	per 1,000 Population:— 14.8 0.59	15.6 0.57	<b>15.8</b> <b>0.61</b>	Deaths under 1 year of age.....	Rates per 50	1,000 Live Births:— 53	40	<b>69</b>	
Still " .....										
DEATHS.										
All Causes .....	12.1	12.0	11.2	<b>10.8</b>	Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age .....	4.6	6.3	3.0	<b>5.8</b>	
Typhoid and Para- typhoid .....	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	MATERNAL MORTALITY:—	0.77 { 2.16 { 2.93 }	Not available		<b>1.93</b> <b>1.93</b>	(Live and Still)
Small-pox .....	—	—	—	—	Puerperal Sepsis .....					
Measles .....	0.01	0.01	0.01	<b>0.03</b>	Others .....					
Scarlet Fever.....	0.01	0.00	0.00	—	Total .....	Rates per 0.74 { 2.08 { 2.82 }	1,000 Total Births (Live and Still)		<b>1.86</b> <b>1.86</b>	
Whooping Cough .....	0.03	0.03	0.02	—	MATERNAL MORTALITY:—					
Diphtheria .....	0.05	0.05	0.04	<b>0.09</b>	Puerperal Sepsis .....	14.35 } " Pyrexia.....	17.26	12.99	<b>5.58</b>	
Influenza .....	0.21	0.19	0.20	<b>0.06</b>	Others .....					
NOTIFICATIONS.					Total .....					
Small-pox .....	0.00	—	—	—	NOTIFICATIONS.					
Scarlet Fever.....	1.89	1.96	1.78	<b>3.23</b>	Puerperal Sepsis .....					
Diphtheria .....	1.14	1.21	1.16	<b>4.32</b>	Others .....					
Enteric .....	0.04	0.03	0.04	—	Total .....					
Erysipelas .....	0.34	0.40	0.31	<b>0.12</b>	Puerperal Fever .....					
Pneumonia .....	1.02	1.21	0.89	<b>0.63</b>	" Pyrexia.....					

**SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.**

**Staff.**

Particulars of the Public Health Staff are set out on page 2 of this report.

**Laboratory Facilities.**

The examination or analysis of clinical material (sputum, swabs, etc.), water, milk, and foodstuffs is carried out at the County Laboratories, Martin Street, Stafford.

During the year bacteriological reports were received by the Medical Officer of Health on the following:—

Swabs examined for Diphtheria bacilli ...	...	4,885
Other swabs ...	...	27
Virulence Test (Diphtheria) ...	...	53
Blood for Agglutination Tests ...	...	27
Faeces ...	...	45
Urine ...	...	16
Pus ...	...	55
Cerebro-spinal fluid ...	...	58
Sputum for Tubercle bacilli ...	...	128
Biological Test (Tuberculosis) ...	...	64
Other examinations ...	...	85

**Ambulance Facilities.**

Two ambulances are maintained by the Local Authority. One for the removal of non-infectious and accident cases, the other for infectious cases. Although no complaints with regard to adequacy have been received, when the new Fire Station has been erected they would be taken over, with a consequent saving of time.

The total number of journeys was 608, covering 4,135 miles. Infectious cases, 223; Accident, 72; Sickness, 334; Abortive calls, 9.

**Nursing in the Home.**

**Clinics and Treatment Centres.**

**Hospitals and Sanatoria.**

**Institution for Homeless Children.**

} There was no change  
in the arrangements  
under these head-  
ings during the year

**Isolation Hospital, Tithe Barn Road.**

This has been a busy year at the Isolation Hospital. Diphtheria became prominent in the first quarter of



the year, commencing with an outbreak in a factory, and resulting in the largest number of cases since 1918, when 252 cases were admitted. In order to cope with the situation wooden huts were erected in February, one for eight beds, and a smaller one for two. These huts were without sanitary annexes. Many of the cases were indeed seriously ill. The Committee appreciated in a practical manner the way in which the cases were dealt with by the Matron and her staff. The admission rate is disclosed by the following figures :—In January 27 cases were admitted ; in February, 41 cases ; in March, 22 ; in April, 23 ; in May, 20 ; in June, 19 ; and 16 each in July and August.

248 cases were admitted to Hospital, classified as follows :—

Disease.	Stafford Borough.	Stafford Rural District.	Other Authorities	Total.
Scarlet Fever .....	73	17	4	94
Diphtheria .....	117	10	2	129
Tonsilitis .....	6	—	—	6
Diphtheria carriers ...	12	—	—	12
Typhoid Fever.....	—	—	2	2
Measles .....	—	2	—	2
Sinusitis .....	1	—	—	1
Croup .....	1	—	—	1
No disease .....	1	—	—	1
Total .....	211	29	8	248

**Infant Welfare Centre.**

The Centre is held at the Wesley Schools, Queen Street, and is open from 10 a.m. to noon and from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays. The Centre is open daily from 9 to 10 a.m. for the treatment of Minor Ailments.

The following is a brief summary of the attendances :—

	1936	1937	1938	1939
(1) Total number of attendances during the year :—				
(i) by children under one year of age ...	3051	4386	5743	4726
(ii) by children between the ages of one and five years ...	4177	4922	5967	5538

(2) Total number of children who attended at the Centre during the year, and who, on the date of <b>their first attendance</b> were :—	1936	1937	1938	1939
(i) under one year of age	204	275	299	309
(ii) between the ages of one and five years...	38	54	59	42
(3) Total number of children under five years of age who attended at the Centre during the year, and who, at the end of the year were :— ...				
(i) under 1 year of age	159	233	225	234
(ii) over 1 year of age...	508	460	524	490
(4) Percentage of notified live births represented by the numbers in (2) (i) ...	50	54.34	59.8	57.5

Since September it was necessary, on account of inadequacy of the air raid shelter, to restrict attendances at the Centre to twenty-five per cent. by instituting an alphabetical rota system. These restrictions have not been so rigidly enforced in 1940.

MINOR AILMENTS.—This service, which is not intended in any way to infringe on the private practitioner or on the Hospital services, has been affected adversely by the War.

ATTENDANCES.—1937 New cases — 78 Revisits — 447  
1938 New cases — 175 Revisits — 1,008  
1939 New cases — 117 Revisits — 585

### Ante-natal Care.

In 1939 medical practitioners carried out under your Maternity Domiciliary Scheme :—

Primary ante-natal examinations ...	...	...	291
Secondary ante-natal examinations	...	...	175
Ante natal cases seen for a third time ...	...	...	4

Total number of expectant mothers ante-natally examined and of cases post-natally examined during the year.

		Ante-natal	Post-natal
1939	...	291	90
1938	...	278	82
1937	...	282	71
1936	...	179	13

Percentage of total notified births (live and still) represented by the total numbers of women.

1939	...	52.1	...	16.1
1938	...	54.2	...	15.9
1937	...	53.7	...	13.5
1936	...	42.	...	3.

Births Distribution.				Stillbirths.	
575	Maternity Homes	...	43	287	6
	Institutions	...	55		
	Doctors' cases	...	13		
	District Nursing Association	...	176		
	As Maternity Nurses	...	176	288	12
	As Midwives	...	...		

Of the total 560 ante- and post-natal examinations carried out last year, 195 were of insured persons, and abnormalities were discovered in 144 individuals. These numbers compare with 500, 167, and 137 last year.

A table has been compiled disclosing the abnormalities, etc., discovered.

				1938		1939
Malpresentation...	...	...	...	23	...	16
Contracted pelvis	...	...	...	10	...	2
Failure of head to engage	...	...	...	15	...	21
Antepartum hæmorrhage	...	...	...	4	...	10
Vaginal discharge	...	...	...	32	...	41
Venereal disease	...	...	...	1	...	3
Albuminuria	...	...	...	31	...	30
Varicose veins	...	...	...	43	...	47
Oedema	...	...	...	32	...	27
Heart and lungs	...	...	...	22	...	27
Anæmia	...	...	...	18	...	31
Increased blood pressure	...	...	...	4	...	9
Other conditions	...	...	...	20	...	26

RECOMMENDATIONS :—

Can be safely attended at home by midwife	...	...	...	154	...	180
Doctor to be present at confinement	...	...	...	8	...	6
Further ante-natal examination	...	...	...	229	...	231
Specialist's opinion	...	...	...	1	...	1
Admitted to Hospital	...	...	...	2	...	0
Confinement take place in Hospital	...	...	...	4	...	6
Dental treatment	...	...	...	48	...	52



## POST-NATAL EXAMINATIONS :—

Number of cases found to be abnormal    1938                      1939  
in some respect    ...                      ...                      45                      ...                      39

It has been the policy of the Welfare Committee to encourage mothers to attend for their first general medical examination at or about the third month of their pregnancy. The table below shows that this ideal has not as yet been reached.

No. of ante-natal examinations	Months when conducted				
	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th+
<b>1939</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>117</b>
1938	11	17	61	58	131

Compensation is made to midwives for loss of cases due to the Borough Ante-natal Scheme.

EMERGENCY ARRANGEMENTS.—No change was made during the year.

The services of the Consultant were required on six occasions. Two of these were under the Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations, and the other four were for the following conditions :—

- 1.—PRIMIPARA. Delayed first stage due to big baby. Forceps delivery.
- 2.—MULTIPARA. Dead child. No reason for interference.
- 3.—DOMICILIARY CASE. Primipara. Heart case. Probably need induction of premature labour.
- 4.—DOMICILIARY CASE. Multipara. Obstructed labour. Forceps delivery.

Sterilized maternity outfits are on sale at cost price (3s. and 6s.), and may be paid for by instalments.

HOME HELPS.—The number of cases assisted was 13.

## Maternity Beds.

As a result of an agreement with the County Public Assistance Committee as to cases admitted to the Institution owing to poor home conditions, the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee undertake payment for two weeks in ordinary cases, extending same to three weeks in exceptional

circumstances. The cost is recovered if the family is not in necessitous circumstances. Up to the end of the year the Council assumed financial responsibility for three cases.

### Notification of Births.

Notifications of births were received as follows:—Institutions, 26 ; Doctors, 5 ; Midwives, 524 ; Parents, 3. In addition to these 17 were registered, making a total of 575. The percentage notification was 97.

Ward distribution including stillbirths:—

1939	...	North, 120 ; South, 130 ; East, 130 ; West, 165 ; Baswich, 30.
1938	...	North, 131 ; South, 128 ; East, 142 ; West, 116 ; Baswich, 30.

### Health Visiting.

Number of visits paid during the year by the Health Visitors:—

(1) To expectant mothers—	<b>1939</b>	1938	1937
First visits ... ..	<b>110</b>	124	133
Total visits ... ..	<b>203</b>	208	264
(2) To children under one year of age—			
First visits ... ..	<b>494</b>	468	472
Total visits ... ..	<b>2004</b>	1808	1955
(3) To children between the ages			
of one and five years ...	<b>4987</b>	4368	4296

Enquiries into infant deaths, 26 ; stillbirths, 18 ; and other unclassified visits, 88.

**Infant Life Protection** (under Part I of the Children Act, 1908, as amended by the Children and Young Persons Act, 1932).

On Register,		Removals	...	...	8
1st January, 1939	16	Adopted	...	...	2
New cases	...	Over nine years	...	...	0
		On Register,			
		31st December, 1939			18
	<hr/>				<hr/>
	28				28
	<hr/>				<hr/>

There was one case less on the Register than in 1938. The Health Visitors paid 120 visits during the year.

## Dental Treatment.

The following abstracts have been taken from a report kindly supplied me by the County Dental Officer, Mr. W. H. Jones, M.A., Cantab, L.D.S., R.C.S. Eng. :—

“The arrangements outlined in the Annual Report for the year 1938 have been continued during 1939 and the joint scheme has worked smoothly during that latter year.

“Thirty-five mothers and 91 ‘toddlers’ were treated, a total of 126 patients during the year. The mothers treated made 124 attendances and their treatment comprised the extraction of 210 permanent teeth under local anæsthetics :— 1 filling, 5 scalings, 5 dressings, 41 sundry operations, and the insertion of 14 dentures and 1 repair to old denture ; a total of 277 operations.

“The ‘toddlers’ made 104 attendances and were accompanied by parents on 97 of these occasions. The operations comprised the extraction of 102 temporary teeth with local applications of anodyne solutions, 93 dressings, 6 fillings, and 3 sundries ; a total of 204 operations.

“The estimated cost, according to scale, of completed dentures and repair was £17 5s. 3d., and the low scale of charges must constitute an inestimable boon to the patients.”

## Free Supply of Milk to Mothers and Infants.

During the past year the number of applications for free milk was 119. Of these, 111 were granted. Those receiving milk were :—

Expectant mothers	...	...	3
Nursing mothers	...	...	23
Children under 1 year	...	...	33
Children from 1—5 years	...	...	52

The number on the register at the commencement of the year was 140, and at the end of the year 79. The cost was £434 18s. 10d.

## Orthopædic Treatment.

Nineteen cases have been under treatment during the year. There were eight new cases and four were discharged.

Congenital conditions form the largest group, i.e., ‘Torticollis, 1 ; Flat feet, 2 ; Club hand, 1 ; Hemiplegia, 2 ; Palsy, 1 ; Talipes, 2 ; Fractured femur, 2 ; Cystic radius fracture, 1 ; no definite deformity, 1. Rickets, mostly mild in character, accounted for the remaining six cases.



The cost to this Authority was :—

	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter
Clinic .....	£ s. d. 12 4 9	£ s. d. 14 3 9	£ s. d. 8 10 3	£ s. d. 5 12 6
Hospital ...	—	24 7 6	—	—
	£12 4 9	£38 11 3	£8 10 3	£5 12 6

Total—£64/18/9.

### Baby Day.

Miss Suffield contributes the following account :—

The Baby Week Celebrations were held during the third week in June. Excepting that the presentations were made and the tea provided in the Market Hall owing to inclement weather, the arrangements made followed on similar lines to that of previous years.

In the absence of the Chairman, Dr. McIntosh, Alderman Mrs. Turney, Vice-chairman, welcomed the guests.

Thanks are due to the Mayor for his presence, Mrs. Rogers for presenting the Blumer Shield, Dr. Brice for judging, and to all those marshalls headed by Alderman Owen, and helpers under the direction of our Welfare Committee members who so ably assisted with the competitions and service of the teas.

The prizes for the best attendance at the Welfare Centre from birth to school age were given by his Worship the Mayor (Councillor Joynes), Councillor W. J. McIntosh (Chairman, Maternity and Child Welfare Committee), Mrs. Aspin, Miss M. Westhead, Mrs. H. B. Binks, Mrs. A. E. Hourd, Councillor A. Ibbs, and Mrs. Ibbs.

## SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

### Water Supply.

The Borough Surveyor states :—

“The new Waterworks at Shugborough have now been completed and are in operation.”

Reports concerning the Town supply are received from the County Bacteriologist monthly and the County Analyst quarterly. The last reports are as set out below.

The supply has been satisfactory in quantity and quality.

## BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

COUNT. On nutrient agar after 48  
hours' incubation at 37°C. ... 5 colonies per ml.  
On nutrient agar after 72  
hours' incubation at 20–22°C. 9 colonies per ml.

Coli Aerogenes Content (presumptive  
coli) ... .. None per 100 ml.  
after 48 hours' in-  
cubation at 37°C.

“The Ministry of Health Report No. 71 suggests that when a public water supply contains not more than two presumptive coli per 100 ml. the sample may be regarded as reasonably satisfactory.”

	1938.	1939.
CHEMICAL EXAMINATION.	<i>Parts per 100,000</i>	
Total Solid Matter dried at 212°F.	30.5	20.50
Free and Saline Ammonia ...	Nil.	Nil.
Albuminoid „ ... ..	0.0038	0.0028
Nitric Nitrogen ... ..	0.30	0.20
Chlorine ... ..	5.6	3.2
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F.	0.013	0.010
Appearance... ..	Clear	Minute trace of suspended matter.
Injurious Metallic Contamination	None.	None.
pH Value ... ..	7.4	7.5
Hardness before boiling ... ..	13.20°	8.16°
Hardness after boiling ... ..	6.20°	4.60°
Temporary Hardness ... ..	7.00°	3.56°

“This water is chemically of satisfactory quality, and if passed bacteriologically, may be considered suitable for drinking.”

Difference in the constitution of the water analyses is due to the admixture of the old and new supplies.

The number of houses (including houses dependent on well water) that have stand pipes in the yards remains at 16.

**Drainage and Sewerage.**

The following new sewers were completed during the year :—

SEWAGE SEWERS.

By the Local Authority.

9" diameter	...	...	...	372 yards.
12"       ,,	...	...	...	270   ,,
15"       ,,	...	...	...	91    ,,
18"       ,,	...	...	...	287   ,,

By the Developers of Private Estates.

9" diameter	...	...	...	511   ,,
				<hr/>
				1,531 yards.
				<hr/>

SURFACE WATER SEWERS.

By the Local Authority.

9" diameter	...	...	...	238 yards.
12"       ,,	...	...	...	40    ,,
18"       ,,	...	...	...	43    ,,

By the Developers of Private Estates.

9" diameter	...	...	...	541   ,,
				<hr/>
				862 yards.
				<hr/>

**Closet Accommodation.**

There are approximately 1,033 waste water closets in the Borough, 42 pail closets, and 16 privy middens.

The number of waste water closets substituted by a pedestal type of W.C. was 68.

The number of stoppages amounted to 1,019, and 541 of this number were in connection with waste water closets.

The grant of 50s. to encourage owners of property, who substitute a waste water closet by a pedestal type of W.C., was still allowed during the year.



## Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The tabular statement below contains the numbers and nature of inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year, with the number of notices served and the result of such notices.

	No. of		Notices.		Notices complied with.	
	Inspections	Defects	Informal 1	Statutory 2	1	2
Dwellinghouses :						
Repairs to dwelling-houses .....	654	51	30	...	26	...
Houses requiring cleansing and verminous houses ...	92	...	...	...	...	...
Sanitary conveniences .....	589	158	62	...	51	...
House drainage defects .....	754	42	38	1	34	1
Defective yard pavements .....	42	1	1	...	1	...
Receptacles for house refuse .....	258	17	14	...	14	...
Accumulations of refuse .....	67	...	...	...	...	...
Overcrowding .....	47	1	1	...	1	...
Water supply .....	58	...	...	...	...	...
Factories & Work-shops .....	44	5	5	...	5	...
Bakehouses .....	33	7	7	...	7	...
Lodging-houses .....	3	...	...	...	...	...
Slaughterhouses .....	1972	1	1	...	1	...
Fried Fish Shops ...	68	3	3	...	3	...
Offensive Trades .....	7	...	...	...	...	...
Piggeries and Stables	31	...	...	...	...	...
Cowsheds .....	91	8	4	...	3	...
Dairies and Milkshops	140	2	2	...	2	...
Shops or premises where food is sold or prepared .....	97	...	...	...	...	...
Cinemas.....	3	...	...	...	...	...
Smoke nuisances .....	46	...	...	...	...	...
Other nuisances .....	103	7	4	...	4	...
Closet stoppages .....	...	1019	...	...	...	...
Visits to infectious cases .....	521	...	...	...	...	...
Unclassified visits.....	720	...	...	...	...	...
	6440	1322	172	1	152	1

### Precautions against Infectious Disease :—

Lots of bedding disinfected or destroyed	...	...	21
Houses disinfected after infectious disease	...	...	29

## **Shops.**

The Senior Sanitary Inspector has been appointed to carry out the sanitary provisions of the Shops Act, 1934.

## **Factory Act, 1937.**

Thirty-eight inspections were made, and includes inspections made by Miss Suffield.

Two inspections were also made to workplaces under the Public Health Act, 1936, as to sanitary conveniences, etc.

Outworkers.—Lists of outworkers are received twice a year, and are entered in the register as follows :—

Tailors. Fourteen lists relating to 19 outworkers.

Boot makers and repairers. Six lists relating to 6 outworkers.

Four visits were paid to these outworkers.

## **Smoke Abatement.**

During the year 11 observations were recorded of the smoke emitted from the chimney stacks in the Borough.

## **Royal Brine Baths.**

Abstracts from report by Mr. Scott, the Manager of the Baths :—

“Royal Brine Baths owned by the Stafford Corporation comprise :—Hot Brine, Zotofoam, Aeration & Douche remedial baths, Brine Swimming, Fresh Water Swimming, Washing baths and a Turkish Department.

“Members of the Birmingham Hospitals Contributory Association continue to attend for Brine Treatment.

“For a time part of the baths were taken over for First Aid and Auxiliary Fire Services, but since November it was found possible to resume the proper use of the baths.

“Members of H.M. Forces welcome the facilities offered them at half usual charges, and over 13,000 have bathed here between September 1939 and March 1940.”

## **Eradication of Bed Bugs.**

Number of Council houses found to be infested	...	11
---	-----	----

Number of other houses found to be infested	...	14
---	-----	----

Number of houses disinfested	...	...	...	25
------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	----

When necessary, rooms are sprayed twice with Zaldecide, and the bedding is steam disinfected.

All disinfestation is carried out by the Public Health Department.

## **Schools.**

Procedure has been the same as in previous years.

## **Common Lodging Houses.**

One Common Lodging House was in use throughout the year.

## **Offensive Trades.**

There are 28 offensive trades on the Register, of which 25 are fried fish shops. The remainder consists of 1 fell-monger, 1 rag and bone merchant, and 1 gut scraper.

## **Cemetery.**

The extension to the Public Cemetery, recorded in last year's report, is now practically complete, and burials will commence immediately after the consecration ceremony.

## **SECTION D.—HOUSING.**

No houses were completed by the Local Authority during the year, but private enterprise provided 183 houses. The Council's scheme for the erection of 123 houses at Silkmore Lane had been commenced when war broke out. Work on all but 17 has been suspended.

The eleven Clearance Areas reported last year were not confirmed by the Ministry owing to the war.

Eighteen houses were demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders. One house was represented to the Council as unfit.

Twelve informal notices under the Housing Act for the remedying of defects were served, and ten of these were complied with.

## **SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.**

### **Registration of Cowkeepers and Dairymen.**

Milk producers entered in register ...	...	...	12
--	-----	-----	----

Producer-retailers entered in register ...	...	...	15
--	-----	-----	----

Of the above 16 have obtained licenses as  
Accredited Producers.

Retail purveyors of milk in the Borough ...	...	...	29
---	-----	-----	----

Retail purveyors of milk whose premises are out- side the Borough ...	...	...	...	...	21
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Entered in the Register are also 46 retailers of milk which is sold in sealed bottles. 46 visits were paid to these shops to ascertain whether the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, was being complied with.



91 visits were paid to cowsheds and 94 to dairies to enforce the Acts and Orders as to cleanliness in the production and sale of milk.

The examination of samples for bacterial content and for tubercle bacilli is carried out by the County Council. The following results were obtained from milk on sale in the Borough :—

	Total No. of Samples.	Cleanliness		Tuber- culosis.
		Satis- factory.	Unsatis- factory.	
Specially designated milks.....	18	17	1*	3*†
Ordinary milk .....	78	62	16	5

\* “Accredited” milk.

† One sample was also unsatisfactory from a cleanliness standpoint.

### Meat and Other Foods.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.—During the year 62 licences were issued to fit and proper persons to slaughter animals for human food.

The following meat was found to be diseased or unsound :—

Bovine.—118 carcasses and all organs.

Portions or the internal organs of 287 carcasses.

Pigs.—49 carcasses and all organs.

Heads or all organs of 506 carcasses.

Sheep.—36 carcasses and all organs.

Portions or the internal organs of 19 carcasses.

The total amount of meat (mostly from one slaughterhouse), condemned as unfit for human consumption was 34 tons, 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwts., and was removed to the Corporation Depot, treated with disinfectant, and then collected by a manufacturer of fertiliser.

The Veterinary Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture sent in 17 cows to be slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order. Five whole carcasses were condemned, and the remaining 12 had some part or organ condemned.

Regular inspections have been made of the foodstuffs exposed for sale in the Market Hall.

### Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

All premises where the preparation of sausages, or potted, pressed, or preserved food intended for sale is carried on

were inspected and reported upon. The following premises were registered :—

Preparation of sausages, etc....	...	...	...	20
Manufacture or sale of ice cream	...	...	...	15
Fish frying	...	...	...	25

A joint report to the Public Health Committee under Section 57(2a) was submitted by the Medical Officer of Health and the Senior Sanitary Inspector on the ten slaughterhouses in the Borough, four of which were registered and six licensed, and, after careful consideration, it was resolved that only four slaughterhouses would be licensed under the Act, one of which would require structural alterations to put the premises into a satisfactory condition. No appeal was lodged against the decision of the local Authority with respect to the six premises as to their future use as slaughterhouses.

**SECTION F.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.**

The following diseases showed an increased prevalence :—  
Measles, Diphtheria, Chicken-pox, and Influenza.

The table below, compiled from School returns, made available through the courtesy of the County Medical Officer of Health, includes contacts as well as cases.

Diphtheria was so prevalent that it severely taxed the resources of the Public Health Staff. Fortunately, although the infection was due to the Gravis strain of corynebacterium, the mortality was low.

	Whooping Cough	Measles	Mumps	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Chicken-pox	Influenza	Scabies	German Measles	Typhoid Fever
1938 ...	66	2	6	105	22	67	5	2	6	5
1939 ...	44	375	2	71	102	286	92	—	—	—

**Vaccination Statistics.**

The following figures for 1938 apply to the whole of the Stafford Union Area :—

Births registered	...	...	...	...	...	...	640
Successfully vaccinated	...	...	...	...	...	158	
Insusceptible	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Exemptions	...	...	...	...	...	440	
Died unvaccinated	...	...	...	...	...	33	
Removed	...	...	...	...	...	8	

Infectious diseases (other than tuberculosis) notified during the 52 weeks from 1st January 1939, to 30th December, 1939

Notifiable Disease.	At all Ages	Case Distribution as to Wards.					Marston Road Hosp.	Gen. Infirm.	Under 1 year	1—2		2—3		3—4		4—5		5—10		10—15		15—20		20—25		25—35		35—45		45—65		65 & over	Removed to Isolation Hospital
		Case Distribution as to Wards.																															
		North	South	East	West	Baswich																											
Scarlet Fever .....Cases ...Deaths	107	25	13	34	31	4	—	3	—	—	3	6	—	9	—	10	—	53	14	6	—	5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	74b	—
Diphtheria .....Cases ...Deaths	143	51	10	34	46	2	3	—	—	—	—	2	—	3	—	6	—	53	33	21	—	19	—	4	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	121c	4d
Pneumonia Cases ...Deaths	21	4	5	6	4	2	4	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	2	—	5	—	7	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery .....Cases ...Deaths	12	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	5	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...Cases ...Deaths	3	1	1	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas.....Cases ...Deaths	4	1	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
aMeasles.....Cases ...Deaths	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
aWhooping Cough.....Cases ...Deaths	57	2	25	12	15	3	—	—	4	5	4	—	12	—	—	5	—	27	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum Cases ...Deaths	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

a Notifiable from October 23rd, 1939.

b 1 case admitted to Stone Joint Isolation Hospital.

c 2 cases admitted to Walsall Isolation Hospital.

d 1 transferable to Cannock.

Stone Joint Isolation Hospital.



## Scarlet Fever.

There were 107 cases of Scarlet Fever notified as against 149 last year.

In 9 instances only were there more than one case in one family. There were 2 "return" cases.

Case rate per 1,000 living, for Stafford, 3.23 ; for England and Wales 1.89.

## Diphtheria.

Of the 143 cases notified, 121 were admitted to Hospital. There were four deaths.

In February an outbreak occurred at a shoe factory. It was confined to one department, in which 500 operatives worked.

On January 29th, the first case notified died one hour after admission to Hospital. She had been ill for five days.

On January 31st, after consulting with Dr. Menton, the County Bacteriologist, arrangements were made to swab the noses and throats of the 500 employees in order to lessen as far as possible the concentration of the infection by eliminating carriers. On the same day the management were interviewed, and the room inspected. Alterations as to ventilation and dusting of the premises were suggested and put into force.

On February 1st, by permission of the management, a talk was given to the operatives, instructions issued as to hygiene, and a recommendation made whereby all sickness of the staff must be reported. At the same time, the Medical Profession were notified of the outbreak, and requested to swab all employees from the factory who reported sick.

It was also arranged that all contacts of cases nursed at home should report to their Doctors for swabbing twice a week. This applied to contacts of carriers as well. Carriers were excluded from work, kept under supervision by the Health Staff, and were swabbed weekly until free.

By the end of the week, i.e., February 4th, 17 cases had been notified. As the Hospital was full, four cases were sent to outside Hospitals, and two cases remained at home.

At the end of the second week, i.e., February 11th, four more direct cases had been notified from the factory, and one case contracted from a case nursed at home.

At the end of the third week, i.e., February 18th, three cases were notified, one of these having contracted the disease at home.

At the end of the fourth week, i.e., February 25th, one case was notified. No other cases were reported until March 21st, when one case occurred.

Diphtheria became more prevalent in the town, but was general in character, except for one small outbreak of six cases at an Infants School.

Until this outbreak, Diphtheria in the Borough was almost entirely due to the Mitis strain of the Corynebacterium. The outbreak was due to the Gravis strain, and diphtheria due to this strain has continued. Clinically, the character of the disease changed, and in the early weeks presented a uniform picture, i.e., marked enlargement of tonsils, rapid formation of membrane, generalised congestion of throat with much oedema, and early affection of glands.

No immunised child died during the year, but 37 children who had been immunised were notified.

Number of immunised children with positive swabs	36
Number who were once Schick negative	... 18
Number who had been Schick positive	... 3
Number who were not tested	... 16
Deaths	... Nil

This large number was due, in my opinion, to

- (a) Change in the type of infection from Mitis to Gravis.
- (b) The comparative freedom of Stafford from endemic Diphtheria for a number of years, thus depriving children of the stimulating effect on their immunity of small immunising doses from their companions.
- (c) The number of immunised children in the community is not yet sufficiently large to be a barrier to the spread of the disease.

In view of the above, I have decided to change my method of prophylaxis against Diphtheria in infants by giving two doses of A.P.T. at one month's interval, following this up by a third dose just before admission to school.

Case rate per 1,000 living, for Stafford, 4.32 ; for England and Wales, 1.14.

The State of Immunisation.—Since 1932, 1,923 children have been immunised. During the year 391 children received injections. This is the largest number done in any one year. Approximately 181 of these were not of school age. For further details see table on page 30.

# DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION IN 1939.

SCHOOL.	No. of forms sent out	No. already immunised	Acceptances	%	Immunised	REMARKS	CHILDREN TESTED, SCHICKED IN 1939, IMMUNISED IN 1938 OR EARLIER	READINGS		REMARKS	RE-IMMUNISED CHILDREN, i.e., THOSE SCHICK+
								+	—		
Corporation Street Infants.....	78	9	51	65	42	4 left 3 absent 1 previously immun. 1 by own Dr. 5 absent 1 left 2 left 1 previously immun.	50	7	41	2 absent	7
Forebridge.....	25	5	20	100	15		11	—	11		—
Littleworth.....	21	11	8	80	7		13	5	8		—
Riekerscote.....	12	—	10	83	7		8	—	7	1 absent	—
St. Austin's .....	6	—	4	66	4		2	1	1		—
St. Leonard's Avenue.....	75	24	46	90	42	3 absent 1 left	20	3	17		3
St. Patrick's .....	27	6	14	66	9	5 absent	11	2	9		1
Stone Road .....	123	22	70	69	61	4 absent 4 previously immun. 1 deceased	62	7	52	3 absent	7
Tenter Banks .....	49	9	29	72	23	4 absent 2 left	19	1	18		—
Welfare babies (at 5 Martin Street) General Practitioners .....			114 46 21		114 46 21						
At Isolation Hospital .....											
TOTAL .....	416	86	433		391		196	26	164		18



### **Dysentery.**

Twelve cases were reported from the County Mental Hospital.

### **Puerperal Pyrexia.**

Three cases were notified. Two were removed to Hospital.

### **Measles and Whooping Cough.**

These diseases were made notifiable by medical practitioners by the Measles and Whooping Cough Regulations, 1939, which came into operation on October 23rd. From that date until the end of the year one case of Measles and 57 of Whooping Cough were notified. Visits were made by the Health Visitors to 318 cases of Measles and German Measles and 175 cases of Whooping Cough during the year.

### **Pneumonia.**

There were 21 cases of Pneumonia notified with one death. Last year there were 29 cases with three deaths.

### **Erysipelas.**

Of the 4 cases notified, one case was admitted to Hospital.

### **Ophthalmia Neonatorum.**

One case was notified from a Nursing Home, and recovered with vision not impaired.

### **Issues of Diphtheria Antitoxin, etc.**

Diphtheria antitoxin, available for the treatment of cases of Diphtheria, can be obtained free on request by a medical practitioner. Diphtheria prophylactic is also provided free, and is used for the prevention of the disease.

### **Tuberculosis.**

Analysis of the new cases and deaths during the calendar year, 1939 :—

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 5	—	—	1	4	—	—	—	—
5—15	1	1	2	3	—	—	—	—
15—25	3	6	—	1	1	2	—	—
25—35	1	6	—	—	3	—	—	—
35—45	4	4	—	—	3	2	—	—
45—55	1	3	—	—	—	2	—	—
55—65	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—
65 and over	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	11	20	3	8	10	7	—	—

Year.	Number of deaths.		Rate per 1,000.			New Cases.
	Res.	Non-Res.	Res.	Non-Res.	Total.	
1938	20	5	0.62	0.15	0.77	49
1939	17	—	0.51	—	0.51	42

Notifications and Deaths of Respiratory and Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis assigned to Wards:—

Ward	Notifications		Deaths	
	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory	Respiratory	Non-Respiratory
North .....	9	2	5	—
South .....	4	2	4	—
East .....	6	3	3	—
West .....	2	3	5	—
Baswich ....	1	—	—	—

The “Balance Sheet” for the Register may be given as follows:—

Number on Register at		Deaths (including 1 from	
31st Dec., 1938 ...	270	other causes) in 1939	18
Notifications in 1939...	32	Notification withdrawn	1
Unnotified deaths ...	5	Removals ... ..	18
Transfers ... ..	5	“Recovered” ... ..	10
Returned to district ...	0	Number on Register at	
		31st Dec., 1939... ..	265
	<hr/> 312 <hr/>		<hr/> 312 <hr/>

Distribution of known cases as to Wards :—

North	South	East	West	Baswich	Total
82	44	74	56	9	265

NOTIFICATION.—There were five deaths of persons who had not been notified as suffering from Tuberculosis.

The ratio of non-notified Tuberculosis deaths to total Tuberculosis deaths was 5 to 17, i.e., 1 to 3.4. In the event of death from Tuberculosis, unless it is a post-mortem diagnosis, the practitioner is written to, and reason for non-notification is asked for.

The average interval elapsing between notification and death was  $40\frac{3}{4}$  months.

Twenty cases from the Borough of Stafford were admitted as in-patients to the following institutions during 1939 :—

Prestwood Sanatorium	...	...	...	...	16
Groundslow Sanatorium	...	...	...	...	11
Himley Children's Sanatorium	...	...	...	...	1
Standon Hall	...	...	...	...	2

HEALTH VISITING.—The Health Visitors have paid 31 primary visits to tuberculous persons on notification and 629 subsequent visits

Three families in which there was a notified Tuberculosis case were transferred to Corporation houses during the year.

AFTER-CARE.—The Stafford Guild of Social Welfare undertakes this work in the area.

## AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS.

This is a comparatively new section, taken on as an additional duty for, it is hoped, war time only. There still appears to be a certain degree of slowness, no doubt engendered by the comforting thought that Stafford is an Evacuation Area.

To those who have been trying to be prepared and to anticipate events, the machinery which has been responsible for placing equipment, etc., at our disposal has been at times, and still is in some instances, very unresponsive. This has been due no doubt to our own enthusiasm.

An increase in the amount of delegation of duties to the larger of the smaller Authorities would have, and would still, save time and energy.



Training has gone on in all branches of Medical A.R.P. without cessation, and our relations with Industry has been cordial and helpful.

During the year the following classes have been held :—

							Number who sat the Examinations.
First Aid	...	4	...	...	...	...	236
Gas (long course)	5	...	...	...	...	...	266
Nursing	...	2	...	...	...	...	140

Co-operation with the County to enable them to staff the Hospitals has been whole hearted. All lady members of the A.R.P. are also members of the Civil Nursing Reserve.

Arrangements have been made whereby those who have gone through their Nursing Class attend the Hospital for sixty hours practical instruction. We have had many more volunteers part time than the Hospital could cope with.

The Parties under Commandant Clewes continue with their training, both advanced and in exercises. There is, however, a growing difficulty in training due to overtime at the works.

The Ambulance Section personnel has made good progress, and are up to strength as to vehicles.

The following deficiencies and difficulties are still with us :—

- 1.—Lack of a centre headquarters.
- 2.—(a) Inadequate garage accommodation (very disturbing).
- (b) The fact that the Scheme-making Authority is mainly a channel for communication to higher authority, controls expenditure, and is largely divorced from, and sometimes unable to meet, the practical issues of the day, does tend to delay matters. This affects vehicles, equipment, and personnel.
- 3.—Insufficient facilities for dealing with contaminated casualties in the event of gas being used to any extent.
- 4.—The constant wastage of personnel, approximating to 600 persons, in the medical services since September, 1938.

The following assets, chiefly local, should be placed on the credit side :—

- 1.—A sympathetic and helpful local A.R.P. Committee.
- 2.—A willing and self-effacing staff.
- 3.—A strong core of loyal officers and volunteers.

- 4.—A friendly-disposed industrial group.
- 5.—A local hospital, which has a Chairman and a large number of its members and staff who wish to be in accord with our scheme, although put to some inconvenience by our presence in their midst.

The strength of the personnel at the end of December was as follows :—

First Aid Parties	...	...	...	...	199
First Aid Post	...	...	...	...	299
Ambulance drivers and attendants				...	134
Drivers of cars for sitting cases	...		...	...	29
					<hr/>
Total					...
					<hr/> 661





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